

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject

Procedure for Designing New County-owned Community/Local Parks

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Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure to involve Community Planning and Sponsor Groups, County Service Area Advisory Committees, Revitalization Committees or other designated advisory groups when the Department of Parks and Recreation designs a new community/local park.

Background

The design or improvement of County parks for recreation or open space uses is not subject to the San Diego County Zoning Ordinance. Consequently, there is not a formal permitting process that would provide opportunities for the general public to review and provide input on the design of a new park. This policy provides a procedure to ensure that the Department of Parks and Recreation solicits community input on and review of the design of new community/local parks.

A community/local park is defined as a County-owned park that is intended to serve the population of the surrounding community. A community/local park does not include County open-space areas or regional parks that are generally larger in size and are developed with larger-scale improvements that are intended to serve residents of the greater San Diego region. Since regional parks and open space areas are not designed to specifically serve residents of a local community, they are not subject to this Policy. Similarly, since improvements to existing park facilities are generally minor in nature, projects involving the installation of improvements to existing community/local parks shall not be subject to this Policy.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

1. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall maintain and update priority lists of desired park improvements for each Local Park Planning Area, based upon needs identified through consultation with community groups, Board offices, Park Master Plans, etc.
2. Upon initiation of a project to design a new community/local park, the Department of Parks and Recreation shall notify, in writing, all residents within a 300-foot radius of the proposed park site of the design process and any scheduled workshops.
3. The Department of Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with the designated community advisory group (e.g., planning or sponsor group, County Service Area Advisory Board, Revitalization Committee, or other designated advisory group), shall

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hold a minimum of two community workshops regarding the proposed park design project in the affected community. Additional workshops may be held as needed. The workshops may be undertaken as part of the regularly scheduled meetings of the designated advisory group.

4. A Final Concept Plan of the proposed community/local park design shall be presented to the designated community advisory group for its recommendation before the Department of Parks and Recreation presents the project to the Board of Supervisors for approval (e.g., adoption of any required environmental findings and authorization to bid and construct the park). The Department of Parks and Recreation shall include this recommendation in the Department's report to the Board of Supervisors requesting approval of the proposed park project.

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by December 31, 2017.

Board Action:

7/9/03 (9)

11-10-10 (7)

CAO Reference

1. Department of Parks and Recreation